

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-46 are pending and are subject to a restriction requirement. Specifically, the Office has indicated that the claims are restricted along the following lines:

Group I: claims 1-15 and 24-31 directed to facial image processing systems and methods that capture structure and reflectance data, classified in class 702, subclass 159;

Group II: claims 17-23 and 32-35, drawn to methods and systems for processing image data to derive an albedo map, classified in class 703, subclass 2; and

Group III: claims 36-46, drawn to a system and method for processing albedo maps from multiple images to derive a single albedo map, classified in class 703, subclass 2.

The Office indicates that there is a linking claim—claim 16—between the claims of Group I and II and that upon allowance of the linking claim, the restriction requirement as between Groups I and II will be removed.

Applicant hereby elects, without traverse, to prosecute the claims of Group I. Although claim 16 is not included in the Group I grouping, Applicant assumes that claim 16 will be examined as being indirectly dependent from claim 12.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 2/17/04

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